

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application with claims 4 and 5 having been withdrawn from further consideration. By the present communication, no claims have been added, claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1, 4, and 5 have been amended to define Applicants' invention with greater particularity. Claim 2 has been deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. (Office Action, page 5). Applicants submit that as amended, claim 1 now includes the limitations of claim 2, and should therefore be deemed equally allowable. Support for the amendments to claims 4 and 5 may be found, among others, at paragraphs [0066] and [0198] of the specification as filed. Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of amended claims 4 and 5 in view of the allowability of the independent claim from which the claims depend. Accordingly, upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1 and 3-9 will be under consideration.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 3, and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102, as allegedly being anticipated by Bornemann, *et al.* (*Biochem. J.*, Vol. 325, pages 623-629, 1997; hereinafter, "Bornemann"). To anticipate, a single reference must inherently or expressly teach each and every element of claimed invention. *In re Spada*, 15 USPQ2d 1655 (Fed Cir. 1990); and *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). MPEP § 2131.

The Office Action alleges that Bornemann teaches methods of assaying for cysteine:glucosaminyl inositol ligase and identifying an inhibitor of this enzyme comprising determining the ligation of cysteine to the glucosaminyl inositol (GI) in the presence and absence of a candidate inhibitor. The Office Action cites to Bornemann at the abstract and introduction on page 623, text on page 625, the paragraph bridging pages 626-7, figure 4 on page 627, text and Table 1 on page 628, and text and figure 8 and page 629. Applicants respectfully submit that as amended, claim 1 includes all of the limitations of claim 2, which has been deemed allowable over the cited art. Accordingly, since Bornemann fails to disclose the claimed method wherein

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the cysteine:glucosaminyl inositol ligase is characterized as having an amino acid sequence with 54% or more sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, and cysteine:glucosaminyl inositol ligase activity, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference fails to anticipate the amended claims and request withdrawal of the rejection.

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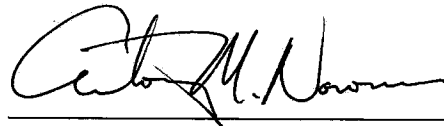
Conclusion

In view of the amendments and above remarks, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if there are any questions relating to this application.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 07-1896 referencing the above-identified attorney docket number.

Respectfully submitted,

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